

Friday Bulletin

News from the Alaska State Libraries, Archives & Museums

9/16/2016

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to patience.frederiksen@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

BrainPop and BrainPop Jr are here to stay!

We are pleased to announce that BrainPop and BrainPop Jr are being kept as SLED databases for FY 2017. We owe the retention of these two resources to the spirited and successful defense of Online With Libraries (OWL) funding that freed up grant funds to continue these two popular K-12 resources.

A few notes about BrainPop and BrainPop Jr:

- MyBrainPop, which allows you to group classes of students is NOT available in our statewide subscription and the vendor refuses to give it to us.

- You will always see “Log in” in the upper right hand corner of the initial BrainPop screen – ignore that and browse direct to a movie. If the movie box is replaced with a request to log in, call 1-800-440-2919 if you do not know the SLED Databases id and password.
- The statewide subscription to BrainPop and BrainPop Jr do not include games NOT produced by BrainPop but are featured in their GameUp section.

Enjoy!

State Library staff and service changes

The Alaska State Library says farewell to two key staff: Maeghan Kearney, Documents Librarian, and Martha McTear, Cataloger. Maeghan is moving to Anchorage with her family, and will be looking for work there. Martha is heading south to catalog at the University of California in Santa Barbara. We’re sad to see them go, but wish them both all the best in all of their future endeavors.

Unfortunately, we’re not able to hire for either position at the time. What does this mean for you?

- State and federal documents are being handled by several staff. For now, please contact Freya Anderson (freya.anderson@alaska.gov) with any documents-related questions or concerns, and she’ll either help you herself or connect you to the appropriate person.
- We don’t have anyone on staff who can handle the full range of cataloging duties. Ginny Jacobs (virginia.jacobs@alaska.gov) will be doing copy cataloging, updates, and basic cataloging of state documents. Katie Fearer (kathleen.fearer@alaska.gov) will be dealing with serials records. Jim Simard (james.simard@alaska.gov) and others in the Historical Collections will be working on adding or enhancing records for their unique collections. Unfortunately, our backlog will most likely grow until such point as we can once again hire a cataloger.

One more week to enter Alaska Positive 2016!

Photographers statewide may now submit entries to *Alaska Positive 2016*, a biennial exhibition of Alaska photography sponsored by the Alaska State Museum.

Now in its 46th year, *Alaska Positive* encourages photography as an art form in Alaska. Deadline for this year’s competition is September 23, 2016. Entries will be juried by nationally renowned photographer, Larry McNeil.

Larry McNeil says that he started his career as an artist with a photo degree, an old beat up Ford, a couple boxes in the back seat, and some brassy Nikon cameras. He knew instinctively that what he sought couldn’t be found in a studio; this called for a journey to find what America was all about.

McNeil’s art is about the intersection of cultures, American mythology, irony, satire, and embodies a distinctive sense of American identity. He is from the Dakl’aweidi Kéet Gooshi Hít, Killer Whale Fin House in Klukwan Alaska, which is one of the oldest Tlingit clan houses on the Northwest Coast.

He has won numerous fellowships, including the Van Deren Coke Fellowship from the University of New Mexico, Eiteljorg Fellowship, an Arts and Humanities Fellowship as well as awards from the National Geographic All Roads Program and a New Works Award from En Foco.

Larry has lived many places including Alaska, San Francisco, Santa Fe and now currently resides in Idaho where he is the Professor of Photography at Boise State University.

Alaska Positive 2016 will open at the Alaska State Museum on November 4th. A statewide tour follows.

In addition to receiving recognition for their work, photographers whose photos are selected for *Alaska Positive 2016* will compete for several cash awards. McNeil will bestow one Juror's Choice award for \$300, and two \$150 Awards of Recognition. The awards are sponsored by the Friends of the Alaska State Libraries, Archives and Museum. McNeil will also select some photographs for Honorable Mention.

Photographers interested in applying can learn more on the Alaska State Museum's Artist Opportunities page at museums.alaska.gov and apply at callforentry.org. For questions, please contact, Jackie Manning, Curator of Exhibitions, jackie.manning@alaska.gov.

Digitized Territorial Governors reports offer snapshots of history

History students of all ages, rejoice! The Alaska State Archives has digitized every annual report of Alaska's Territorial Governors from 1884-1958. [The annual reports](http://vilda.alaska.edu) can be found on Alaska's Digital Archives (<http://vilda.alaska.edu>).

The [first report of 1884-85](#) describes a sense of chaos that greeted Governor A. P. Swineford as he took up his duties:

The absence of any "instructions" to the government officials has also embarrassed us. The commander of the naval forces, the collector of customs, and the officers of the civil government are without any instructions from their several Departments for their guidance.

AND

It should be mentioned here that nearly all the public buildings are in a sad state of dilapidation—the custom-house from fire, the others from disuse and natural decay. The government house, or "castle," should, I think, be repaired, on account of its prominent position, usefulness, and historical associations, and made available for the use of Government officials. The custom-house and several others of the public buildings should be renovated as well.

It is important to remember that the annual reports were the products of their times and, for the most part, written in an age of discrimination and mistaken belief that some races were superior to others. One example from the first report:

It gives me pleasure to say in this connection, that the system inaugurated by the officers of the United States Navy—commencing, I believe, with Capt. L. A. Beardslee, extended and improved by Commander Henry Glass and his successors in command—for the management and control of the Indians or natives, has been eminently successful. Too much credit cannot be given these gentlemen for their wise and judicious treatment of this heretofore troublesome question. The improvement in the condition, habits, and appearance of the natives since my previous acquaintance with them is most marked, and convinces me that they are capable of appreciating to a considerable extent the civilization of the white race. They are docile and industrious, and accept the judgment of constituted authority without murmur or thought of resistance thereto.

Nothing posted by the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums should be interpreted as endorsing these views, only as bringing what was said at the time to light. Remembering history is an important path to avoiding mistakes in the future.

In addition to uncomfortable attitudes, one will find documentation of Alaskan resources and industry, estimates of population and wildlife and the difficulties of life in Alaska. We hope you will find these reports useful in your study of Alaska history.

OWL Week of 9/5/2016: languages, hearings and teacher prep

Last week the OWL Videoconference Network facilitated group work on French and Inupiaq, hearings and meetings on libraries and educator preparation.

If you're a library wishing to schedule a videoconference, use the [Videoconference Request Form](#).

If you're an agency or organization wishing to use the OWL Videoconference Network for either group or one on one video conferencing to save travel dollars, contact your local library or OWL Program Manager Daniel Cornwall at daniel.cornwall@alaska.gov.

See what's on tap in the coming weeks on the OWL Videoconferencing Network by visiting <http://library.alaska.gov/dev/owl.html>.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stream the National Book Festival Next Saturday 9/24!

We've just become aware that next Saturday, 9/24/2016, PBS will be streaming the Library of Congress National Book Festival live from 8am-2pm Alaska Time:

Book View Now brings the Library of Congress National Book Festival to you! Hosted by Book View Now's Rich Fahle.

The National Book Festival will be held Saturday, September 24 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in DC. Live stream coverage of the event will air from 12 noon until 6 p.m. ET, with interviews tentatively scheduled with authors Stephen King, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Salman Rushdie, Ken Burns, Joyce Carol Oates, Bob Woodward, Marilynne Robinson, Jon Meacham, Yaa Gysasi, Jacqueline Woodson, Jeffrey Toobin and many more, as well as segments showcasing the energy of the Book Festival floor.

For more information and viewing instructions, visit <http://www.pbs.org/book-view-now/blogs/news/2016/09/08/about-the-library-of-congress-national-book-festival-1>

If you have an OWL endpoint, you can use the large screen to stream the book festival for your patrons by plugging a laptop into it. Here's what the laptop should look like when you're done:



If you haven't moved your endpoint for a while, that end should be plugged in correctly. But if you have trouble with audio or video, check your codec setup against this picture:



Finally, you'll need to make sure that the OWL screen is set to "presentation" or "share PC". If you're not sure how to do this, check out the last two tutorials at http://library.alaska.gov/dev/OWL_Staff_Tutorials.html.

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